



Santen Announces Strategic Investment in Regenerative Patch Technologies LLC

April 7, 2017, Osaka, Japan and Portola Valley, CA – Santen Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. (“Santen”), a specialized ophthalmology company headquartered in Osaka, Japan, today announced that Santen has made an investment in Regenerative Patch Technologies LLC (“RPT”).

RPT is a privately held US company that has developed proprietary technologies that can produce and subsequently deliver a monolayer of stem cell-derived retinal pigment epithelial cells on a scaffold through a minimally invasive surgical approach. RPT initiated a Phase 1/2a clinical trial with funding from CIRM (California Institute for Regenerative Medicine). Proceeds from Santen’s investment will go toward funding the further development of the technology.

“We are pleased to make this investment in support of RPT’s innovative approach to fulfill the unmet medical needs in ophthalmology,” said Naveed Shams, M.D., Ph.D., Senior Corporate Officer, Chief Scientific Officer and Head of Global Research and Development at Santen. “Japan has been a leader in stem cell research and Santen is looking forward to partnering to support RPT’s innovative approach in order to bring treatment to many patients suffering from visual loss due to macular degeneration.”

“The ability to partner with a global leader in ophthalmology like Santen is very exciting,” said RPT’s co-founder, Dennis Clegg Ph.D. “Such a strong partnership will greatly accelerate RPT’s ability to develop our product safely and effectively.”

The implant being developed by RPT is intended for the treatment of age related macular degeneration. Macular degeneration affects millions of people globally with essentially no approved therapeutic options for the treatment of the most common, dry form, of the disease. The implant contains retinal pigmented epithelial cells on a membrane that mimics the function of the Bruch’s membrane. Both of these elements are frequently defective in patients with the dry form of macular degeneration. RPT is currently in a Phase 1/2a clinical trial in patients with the most severe form of the disease known as geographic atrophy. For further information on the clinical trial, please visit <https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT02590692>

The impact of the investment on Santen’s financial statements is not material.

About Regenerative Patch Technologies LLC

Regenerative Patch Technologies LLC is a privately held company located in California developing regenerative medicine products for debilitating retinal diseases. The company is

currently focused on developing an implant containing retinal pigmented epithelial cells derived from pluripotent stem cells on a specially designed ultrathin membrane. The implant is intended to replace diseased retinal tissue in patients with age-related macular degeneration. The implant technology was established using grant funding from the California Institute of Regenerative Medicine (CIRM) which funded work at the University of Southern California, the University of California at Santa Barbara and the California Institute of Technology to develop and preclinically test the product. CIRM has most recently funded the ongoing Phase 1/2a clinical trial being conducted to assess the safety and potential activity of the implant in patients with geographic atrophy.

About Santen

As a specialty company dedicated to the ophthalmic field, Santen carries out research, development, marketing, and sales of pharmaceuticals. Santen is the market leader in Japan for prescription ophthalmic pharmaceuticals and sells products in over 50 countries. As a leading company in the field of ophthalmology, Santen aims to contribute to society by supplying valuable products and services to satisfy unmet medical needs. For more details, please see Santen's website (www.santen.com).

Santen Forward-looking Statements

Information provided in this press release contains so-called "Forward-looking Statements." The realizations of these forecasts are subject to risk and uncertainty from various sources. Therefore, please note that the actual results may differ significantly from the forecasts. Business performance and financial condition are subject to the effects of change in regulations made by the governments of Japan and other nations concerning medical insurance, drug pricing and other systems, and to fluctuations in market variables such as interest rates and foreign exchange rates.

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